

OUTGOING MESSAGE/ADMIN FORM

(ADDRESSES)

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: _____

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8/21/85

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MESSAGE BFN: _____ (COMCENTER USE ONLY)

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STAT

NOT TO BUG YOU, BUT BELIEVE LD211235 (DRUZHININ COMMENTARY) ON U.S. DECISION TO BEGIN COMBAT TESTS OF ANTI-SATELLITE WEAPONS IN SPACE PROBABLY MERITED FLAG "USIA ALERT." ASIDE FROM ANY GUIDANCE WE HAVE PROVIDED, BELIEVE WE NEED TO FLAG FOR USIA FIRST SIGNIFICANT REACTION TO NEW U.S. INITIATIVES, PARTICULARLY IN THE ARMS CONTROL AREA. WE FLAGGED IT HERE.

NAME	BFN	STAT	XREF	P	LOG	DATE	TIME
WIRSVC.MSGIN .HOLD .L07991	LD211235	ORGNL	LD210854	P		08/21/85	13:07

HEADLINE: Moscow Political Observer on U.S. Space Weapons Test
SOURCELINE: "Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 gmt 21 aug 85
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<co{q1}>

UNCLAS 3AA/PMU{q1}

SUBJ SUP GENARM{q1}

REF LD210854 MOSCOW WORLD IN ENGLISH 210700 -- MOSCOW: U.S. SPACE{q1}

WEAPON TEST PLANS 'RUN COUNTER' TO TREATY{q1}

><uf headline>

Moscow Political Observer on U.S. Space Weapons Test{q1}

{f3}LD211235 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 gmt 21 aug 85{q1}

{f1}{em }{q1}

(Text) Washington has announced the United State's decision
to begin combat tests of anti-satellite weapons in space very
soon. Over to our Political Observer Aleksandr Druzhinin:{ep}

Thus the practical implementation of the so-called ''star wars''
program proclaimed by President Reagan in march last year begins.
Hitherto, representatives of Reagan's administration, patently
attempting to mislead the public, have presented the matter as
if this program is restricted to harmless and completely safe
scientific research developmental work. The White House was even
indignant at the actual words ''star wars,'' and asserted that a
certain Strategic defense Initiative was what was intended.{ep}

Now, when the Pentagon is on the point of launching
anti-satellite weapons for strike purposes into space, it must

FBI 052
We re-ran this one
"USIA Alert"

defense, but about turning space into a sort of bridgehead for delivering a first strike on other countries. One cannot fail to turn attention to the fact that the United States has announced the decision to start combat testing of weapons in space literally 3 days after the Soviet Union submitted to the United Nations organization a proposal to examine a complex of measures and principles of international cooperation in the peaceful development of space under conditions of its nonmilitarization, at the forthcoming UN General Assembly session. The implementation of these measures would preclude the transformation of space into a military testing range and would create the necessary conditions so that space would be put to the service of peace, security, economic and social progress, and not that of militarism. {ep}

However, the United States has once again shown that such a path is not to its liking, having responded to the Soviet program for the peaceful use of space with practical steps to realize Reagan's 'star wars' program. {ep}

What could the consequences of these steps by Washington be? It is clear that, having started testing anti-satellite strike weapons, the Pentagon will increase the scale and pace of tests. Appetite, as they say, comes during eating. Thus completely real threats arise of space being transformed into the arena for a new twist in the arms race spiral. The preconditions arise for a further intensification of international tension. However, if one thinks about the immediate, tactical, so to speak, aims of the United States, then surely it would be logical to suppose that the decision to start combat testing of weapons in space is evidently timed to

to begin at the start of September in Geneva. {ep}

The impression is created that certain circles of the Washington administration are calculating to conduct these talks from a position of strength and use them as a screen for hiding U.S. military preparations. However, if such an aim really is being set, then someone in Washington should remember and seriously give thought to the words of Mikhail sergeyevich Gorbachev about the fact that the program for militarization of space, which the United States is implementing, is like a blank wall barring the way to the achievement of an accord in Geneva. {ep}

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